



# NEWS RELEASE

*Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the*

*District of Nebraska*

**DEBORAH R. GILG**

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February 23, 2010

United States Deborah R. Gilg, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and F.B.I. announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:**

On February 23, 2010, Shane Bertucci, age 26 of Macy, was found guilty by a United States District Court jury of unlawfully killing bald eagles and selling red-tail hawk feathers. The Honorable Joseph F. Bataillon, Chief United States District Judge, presided over the trial. Mr. Bertucci, an enrolled member of the Omaha tribe, admitted to killing three bald eagles and five hawks at various locations on the Omaha and Winnebago Indian reservations. He also admitted to selling hawk feathers without being permitted to do so by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Name of Defendant:** Shane Bertucci

**AKA:**

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Ct. I, Unlawful Take of Bald Eagle ( not more than 1 year imprisonment, up to a \$100,000 fine, or both imprisonment and fine, not more than 1 year of supervised release and a \$25 special assessment); Ct. II, Unlawful Take of Bald Eagle (not more than 2 years imprisonment, up to a \$250,000 fine, or both imprisonment and fine, not more than 1 year of supervised release and a \$25 special assessment); Ct. III, Sold Red-Tail Hawk Feathers (not more than 1 year imprisonment, up to a \$100,000 fine, or both imprisonment and fine, not more than 1 year of supervised release and a \$25 special assessment).

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** Macy and Winnebago, Nebraska

**Location of Arrest:** N/A

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:** N/A

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:** N/A

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** February 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006

**Federal Arrest Date:** Federal Summons executed March 25, 2009

**Date Complaint Issued:** N/A

**Indictment Returned Date:** March 20, 2009

**Initial Appearance Date:** April 2, 2009

**Plea or Trial and Date(s):** Jury Trial February 22 and February 23, 2010

**Sentencing Date:** May 28, 2010

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:** Sentencing

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:** Honorable F.A. Gossett

**Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:** Released pending sentencing

**In Continuous Custody Since:**

**Assigned District Court Judge:** Honorable Joseph F. Bataillon

**Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** SLD